

IN THE CLAIMS:

(All pending are shown below for the Examiner's convenience. Claims that have not been amended are indicated as "Unchanged".)

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (Unchanged) A method for the treatment of a T cell-mediated or T cell-dependent autoimmune disease in a human [exhibiting an autoimmune response associated with] suffering from said autoimmune disease comprising orally or enterally administering to said human at least one antigen selected from the group consisting of an autoantigen specific for said autoimmune disease, and an autoimmune response-suppressive fragment of said autoantigen, in an amount effective to suppress [said] autoimmune response associated with said autoimmune disease, said suppression comprising elicitation of suppressor T cells specific to said administered antigen.

Cancel claim 2:

2. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1, wherein said autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of myasthenia gravis, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes mellitus, systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia and autoimmune thyroiditis.

9. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1, wherein said treatment suppresses

the symptoms of said autoimmune diseases in said human.

11. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1 wherein said autoantigen is administered orally.

12. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1 wherein said autoantigen is administered enterally.

13. (Unchanged) The method of claim 1 wherein said autoimmune disease is multiple sclerosis.

15. (Unchanged) The method of claim 13 wherein said autoantigen is myelin basic protein (MBP), or a biologically active fragment of MBP, wherein said biological activity is the ability to suppress or eliminate T cell mediated or T cell dependent autoimmune response.

Cancel claims 16-18.

16. (Canceled) The method of claim 15 wherein said biologically active fragment of MBP is a non-encephalitogenic fragment of MBP.

17. (Canceled) The method of claim 16 wherein said non-encephalitogenic fragment of MBP comprises amino acids 1-37 of MBP, or an orally immunosuppressive portion thereof.

18. (Canceled) The method of claim 17 wherein biologically active portion of MBP comprises the region between amino acids 5 and 20.

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20. (Three Times Amended) A method of treating a T cell-mediated or T cell-dependent autoimmune disease in a human [exhibiting an autoimmune response associated with] suffering from said autoimmune disease comprising orally or enterally administering to said human at least one antigen selected from the group consisting of autoantigens specific for said autoimmune disease, and autoimmune response-suppressive fragments of said autoantigens, in an amount effective to suppress an autoimmune response associated with said autoimmune disease[, said suppression comprising elicitation of suppressor T cells specific to said administered antigen].

Kindly add the following claims:

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--21. The method of claim 15 wherein said autoantigen is MBP.

Applicants: HOWARD L. WEINER *et al.*
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--22. The method of claim 15 wherein said autoantigen is bovine MBP.

--23. The method of claim 1 wherein said autoantigen is contained in tissue that is the site of attack in the autoimmune disease.

--24. The method of claim 15 wherein said autoantigen is contained in tissue that is the site of attack in the autoimmune disease.

--25. The method of claim 20 wherein said autoantigen is contained in tissue that is the site of attack in the autoimmune disease.

--26. The method of claim 22 wherein said autoantigen is contained in tissue that is the site of attack in the autoimmune disease.--

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

37 C.F.R. §1.129

This Amendment is made under 37 C.F.R. §1.129(a). Payment of the fee of \$770 is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account no. 04-0100 any